



*Please find the California High-Speed Rail Authority Chief Executive Officer's report, below, as prepared for the May 5, 2011 Board meeting.*

**DATE:** May 5, 2011 (Board Meeting Agenda Item 9)  
**TO:** Chairman Pringle and Authority Board Members  
**FROM:** Roelof van Ark, Chief Executive Officer  
**SUBJECT:** May 2011 CEO Report to the Board

#### **REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST/ HIGH-SPEED RAIL INDUSTRY CONFERENCE**

Another group that has become very involved in the development of our project is the private sector.

We engaged the private sector on a large-scale basis mid-April, by holding an industry forum in Los Angeles, attended by upwards of 1,500 individuals representing the more-than-1,000 companies who submitted expressions of interest to the Authority in March.

The conference was an informal activity we used to gather information and spread the word about the current status of our project.

22 companies requested involvement with funding of our project, and we had the opportunity to meet with 7 of these groups after the forum. We had a very large attendance from the Small Business community, who had an opportunity to "meet the primes" in the afternoon session.

#### **FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS**

First off, it is important to note that nothing in the federal budget agreement affects any of the funding California has already been awarded for high-speed rail. The \$5.5 billion we have available (that is federal money plus state matching funding) is untouched. And in fact, this is well beyond where we imagined we would be at this point.

The cuts also included \$400 million from the current fiscal year. We have been told these funds will come from the pot to be re-allocated from Florida, leaving \$2B to be re-allocated from Florida.

### **STATION-AREA PLANNING FUNDS**

Another item we will be discussing over coming weeks with several cities along our alignment is the availability of funding to study land use around planned stations.

We sent, earlier this month, packets of information to seven cities within or adjacent to our Initial Construction Section, about the funding available to study the areas around potential station locations. The goal is to encourage those cities to begin to envision and plan for the transformative benefits that will come along with the new transportation system.

The funds available to each city may be as much as \$400,000-\$700,000 from federal stimulus funding and up to \$200,000 from state funding. The amount will be based on the cost of each city's planning efforts and available matching funds.

### **STATE BUDGET**

While we have had hearings in legislative budget subcommittees – with more scheduled in coming days – there is nothing new to report on our actual budget situation.

The Governor is scheduled to release his May Revision of his budget proposal on Monday, March 16, after which time we will have more information and more activity related to our appropriations for 2011-12.

### **UPCOMING VISIT BY DOT/FRA**

On May 16 & 17 the DOT/FRA will be in Sacramento for a visit and thorough project review.